

ENTOMOLOGY.—*A new genus of flea beetles from the West Indies.*¹ DORIS H. BLAKE, Arlington, Va.

Two new species of a genus of flea beetles that has hitherto gone without a name have recently been collected, one from the region of the Pico Turquino, in Oriente Province, Cuba, the second, the only one of its group from outside of Cuba, from Puerto Rico.

In his treatment of the Cuban Chrysomelidae, Suffrian² grouped under *Haltica* such related genera as "*Graptodera*, *Crepidodera*, *Phyllotreta*, and *Aphthona*" and others. Frequently, under a section head designated merely by a letter, he described, without giving a name to it, a group that did not belong under any of the genera known to him. Such a group is that characterized in a brief Latin description under section c (p. 187) of his treatment of *Haltica*. Following this short generic description he described four species, *H. interstitialis*, *clathrata*, *pyritosa*, and *robusta*. Of *H. interstitialis* he remarked that in habit and color it reminded him of a species of *Helophorus*, a water beetle, belonging to a wholly unrelated group. He also compared it with species of *Phratora* (*Phytodecta*) but stated that it definitely did not belong to that genus, being a halticid. In Gemminger and Harold's Catalogue (vol. 12, 1876, pp. 3496–3497) these four species were placed under *Disonycha*. Heikertinger in the Junk Catalogue followed Harold's arrangement, leaving them still in that genus. Except for their broadly oblong oval shape and the short legs with the small spur at the end of the tibiae, there is not much resemblance to *Disonycha*. In fact, they are not very closely related to any hälticid with which I am familiar. Their short broad thorax and large eyes suggest some species of *Dibolia* or *Megistops*, but they lack the large double spur at the end of the hind tibia. They have three outstanding characteristics that separate them from any related genera—(1) the peculiar carving of the head, consisting of a deep groove on either side along the margin of the eye, (2) the lobing at the middle of the base of the thorax, and (3) the

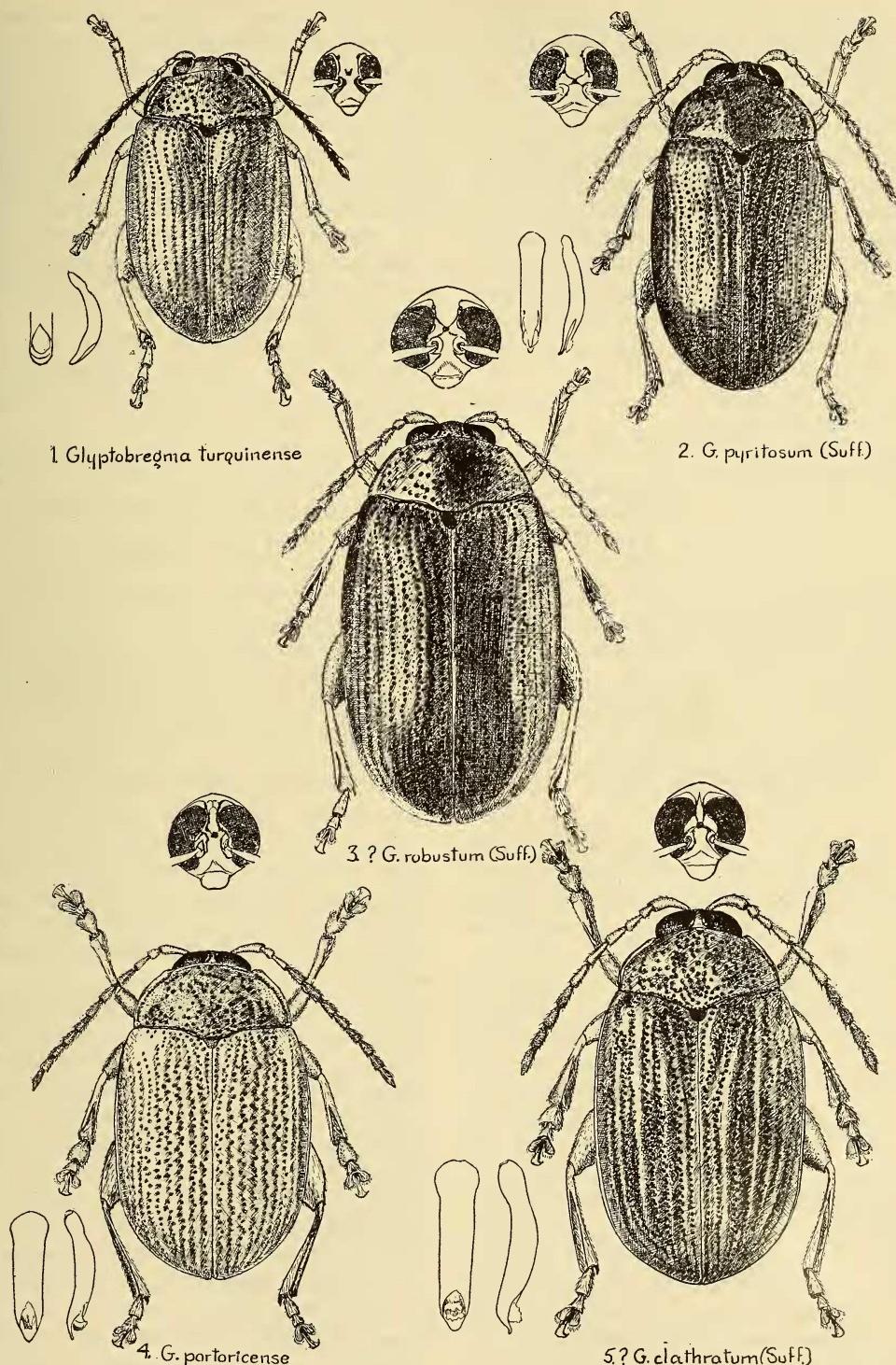
deep, striate, often partially geminate, punctuation of the elytra, which tends to produce interstitial costae. This combination of characters makes these six species unique enough to deserve generic separation. The name **Glyptobregma** is proposed for the group. ($\gamma\lambda\nu\pi\tau\delta\sigma$ carved, $\beta\rho\epsilon\gamma\mu\alpha$ forehead). *Glyptobregma portoricensis* is selected as the type of the genus.

Of Suffrian's species I can identify only *H. pyritosa* with complete assurance. The late Dr. E. A. Schwarz identified a series of specimens that he collected at Cayamas, Cuba, as *H. interstitialis*. Suffrian differentiated *interstitialis* and *clathrata* by the difference in development of the elytral costae, which in *interstitialis* were uniform and in *clathrata* (Fig. 5) unequally developed (the 2nd, 4th, and 6th being stronger than the others). In Schwarz's series, which seems to be clearly one species, both forms are found. I have separated them in the key on the basis of Suffrian's description, being unwilling to unite them without some knowledge of the types. I have only two females from Las Animas, Sierra Rangel, that I refer with some doubt to *robusta* (Fig. 3). Suffrian described the species as steely blue with the breast and outside of the legs bluish. These have a bluish luster and are reddish brown beneath without any blue, and they are slightly larger than Suffrian's measurements. Specimens from Cayamas, Santa Clara Province, Cuba, identified as *pyritosa* by Schwarz, agree with Suffrian's description of that species.

Description of the genus.—3–5 mm in length, oblong oval, not very convex. Head with large and in some species very closely placed eyes, a small pit between the frontal tubercles, and on either side a deep furrow extending along the inner margin and in some species around the eye. Antennae not reaching the middle of the elytra, the basal joint long and curved. Thorax, short and greatly broadened behind with the basal margin lobed over the scutellum; coarsely and deeply punctate, the punctures occurring in groups or irregular rows and produc-

¹ Received December 20, 1946.

² Arch. für Naturg. 34 (pt. 1): 176. 1868.



FIGS. 1-5.—*Glyptobregma*, n. gen.: 1, *G. turquinense*, n. sp.; 2, *G. pyritosum* (Suffrian); 3, ? *G. robustum* (Suffrian); 4, *G. portoricense*, n. sp.; 5, ? *G. clathratum* (Suff.).

ing a rugosity of the surface. Scutellum somewhat sunken. Elytra not much wider than the thorax, rather flat, and with 10 rows of coarse, deep, and sometimes partially geminate punctation, in some species forming weak costae between the striations. Epipleura extending only to apical narrowing. Body beneath with open anterior coxal cavities. Hind femora thickened, hind tibiae and usually middle tibiae sulcate to some extent, a short spur at the end of the hind tibiae. Claws broadly dentate at base.

KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Yellowish or reddish brown in coloration 2
Blue or black with luster 5
2. Elytra costate or tending to be costate 3
Elytra not at all costate, (Pico Turquino)
 turquinense, n. sp.
3. Elytra with 9 slightly raised interstitial costae
 interstitiale (Suffrian)
Elytra without 9 regular costae 4
4. Elytra only indistinctly and irregularly costate (Puerto Rico)
portoricense, n. sp.
Elytra with straight interstices (2, 4, 6) more distinctly costate
clathratum (Suffrian)
5. Piceous with a brassy luster
 pyritosum (Suffrian)
Steel blue
 robustum (Suffrian)

Glyptobregma turquinense, n. sp.

FIG. 1

About 3 mm in length, oval, deep reddish brown, shining, thorax coarsely and irregularly punctate, elytra with 10 striae of rather coarse punctures, not geminate and the interstices not costate.

Head with the interocular space nearly half the width of head, eyes large but not distinctly emarginate near the antennal sockets, a deep groove above antennal sockets and a depression in the middle between the tubercles, the groove extending up on each side of the front along the margin of the eyes. Antennae not reaching the middle of the elytra, the four basal joints a little lighter in color than the remainder, the first joint very long and curved, third not much longer than second, fourth not quite so long as fifth. Prothorax about twice as wide as long at the base, but anteriorly much narrowed, basal margin lobed above the scutellum; disc coarsely and irregularly punctate, the punctures being grouped more densely on the sides and forming thereby a more depressed area on either side near the basal margin.

Elytra without any costation between the 10 rows of striate punctures, the punctures showing almost no trace of gemination, and becoming finer in the apical half; humeri well marked, a distinct depression behind the callosity near the scutellum. Body beneath shining, deep brown; tibiae of hind legs alone showing near the apex a slight sulcation, this not apparent beyond the apical enlargement; a spur at the end of the hind tibia. Claws broadly dentate at base. Length 2.9 mm; width 1.6 mm.

Type.—male, M.C.Z. No. 27663.

Type locality.—“Coast up to Pico Turquino, 3700 ft.,” Province of Oriente, Cuba, collected June 10–29, 1936, by J. Acuña.

Remarks.—This species is unlike the rest in not having a long sulcus in the tibiae; in fact, there is only a trace of channeling near the apex of the hind tibiae. The eyes are more distinctly separated than in the other species, and the aedeagus has a broadly rounded tip in contrast to the acutely tipped aedeagi of the others. But in the grooving of the head, the irregularly punctate thorax, and striately punctate elytra, as well as the general shape and coloration this species closely resembles the others.

Glyptobregma portoricense, n. sp.

FIG. 4

About 3–4 mm in length, oblong oval, pale yellow-brown, the elytra tending to be a little darker, faintly shining, eyes very large, thorax irregularly and coarsely punctate, elytra semi-costate between the partly geminate rows of punctures.

Head with enormous eyes nearly meeting at the vertex, and emarginate about antennal sockets; a distinctly produced carina between antennal sockets, and a pit between the frontal tubercles, and above them a deep-cut groove on each side extending up and around the margin of the eyes. Antennae reddish brown and not reaching the middle of the elytra, a long curved basal joint, third joint shorter than fourth. Prothorax almost twice as broad as long at the base, narrowed anteriorly and with a lobe on the basal margin above the scutellum; surface coarsely and deeply punctured, the punctures tending to be grouped or in irregular rows with finer surface punctures between. Elytra rather flat with smooth shining humeri and 10 rows of partially geminate, coarse, deep punctures,

producing an irregular costate appearance, more regular and marked at the apex; a few fine shallow punctures apparent on the sides. Body beneath shining reddish or yellowish brown, finely pubescent. Anterior coxal cavities open. Hind femora thickened, tibiae of all legs shallowly furrowed, hind tibiae with a short spur at the end, claws broadly dentate. Length 3-4.4 mm; width 1.7-2.5 mm.

Type male and 36 paratypes (2, in M.C.Z.), U.S.N.M. No. 58259.

Type locality.—Ponce, Puerto Rico, collected December 30, 1932, on *Quercus thompsoni* by R. G. Oakley.

Other localities.—Bayamon, P.R., July 14,

1934, on *Jasminum* sp.; Orocovis, P.R., October 25, 1932, on unknown tree, and Orocovis, December 22, 1932, on *Quercus thompsoni*; San Juan, P.R., Ponce, September 21, 1933, on leaves of *Tabebuia* sp., all collected by R. G. Oakley. Guanica, P.R., collected by C. M. Matos, July 25, 1914 (Stuart Danforth coll.).

Remarks.—This species closely resembles the two Cuban species, *G. interstitiale* and *G. clathratum* (Suffrian), being of the same pale yellow brown coloration and with a broadly oblong oval shape and very large eyes. It differs in its more irregularly and less distinctly costate elytra. The aedeagus has a more tapering tip.

ORNITHOLOGY.—*A report on the birds collected by Logan J. Bennett on Nissan Island and the Admiralty Islands.*¹ S. DILLON RIPLEY, Yale University. (Communicated by HERBERT FRIEDMANN.)

I. BIRDS FROM NISSAN ISLAND

Dr. Logan J. Bennett during his war service in the U. S. Naval Reserve had occasion to be stationed on Nissan Is'and, sometimes called Sir Charles Hardy Island, which lies nearly 60 miles east of the southern part of New Ireland in the Bismarck Archipelago. Forty-three specimens were collected in August, October, and November of 1944. Only two previous collections have been made on this Island; by Eichhorn, recorded by Hartert (*On the birds of Feni and Nissan Islands, east of New Ireland*, Nov. Zool. 33: 33-48. 1926), and by the Whitney Expedition. Hartert noted the fact that the avifauna of Nissan is more closely related to the Solomon Islands than to the Bismarck Archipelago. In only four of the subspecific forms of the immediate area is Nissan populated by a Bismarck rather than a Solomon Island form. For that reason the island is usually classified zoogeographically as one of the northern Solomon Islands. It is also listed politically as part of the northern Solomons by the Australian Mandate Administration.

I wish to express my gratitude to the authorities of the United States National Museum, who have allowed me to examine these specimens, as well as to the Bird De-

partment of the American Museum of Natural History, which has kindly allowed me to use comparative material from the Whitney and Rothschild Collections.

In the following discussion all measurements are in millimeters. The wing measurements are obtained by pressing the wing flat against the ruler. The culmen measurements are of the full length of the exposed culmen.

1. *Demigretta sacra sacra* (Gmelin) *Ardea sacra* Gmelin, Syst. Nat. 1, pt. 2: 640. 1789 (Tahiti).

An adult male in dark plumage was taken on November 2. This species had not been previously recorded from Nissan by Hartert (l.c.) or by the Whitney Expedition (*vide* Mayr and Amadon, Amer. Mus. Nov., no. 1144. 1941), although it is bound to occur on every reef and atoll in the area. This specimen is completing the molt.

2. *Haliastur indus girrenera* (Vieillot) *Haliaetus girrenera* Vieillot, Gal. Ois. 1: 31, pl. 10. 1822. ("India"; restricted to new South Wales).

An adult male in worn plumage was collected on October 28.

3. *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (Gmelin) *Falco leucogaster* Gmelin, Syst. Nat. 1, pt. 1: 257. 1788 (locality unknown; = New South Wales).

A male adult taken on October 30 is the first record for the Solomon Islands and represents

¹ Received November 11, 1946.